

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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195 Youth Complete Employment Enhancement Training

One hundred and ninety five (195) young people between the ages 12 and 29, from the communities of Mountain View, Fletchers Land, Kencot and Denham Town have been provided with Information Technology skills and trained in personal development under an employment enhancement project developed by Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU) and funded through the Jamaica Social Investment Fund (JSIF).

At the graduation event on Tuesday in Kingston, JSIF's General Manager of Human Resources, Administration, MIS and Communications stated, "we are pleased to note that over a period of 12 months 115 males and 80 females have successfully completed the programme."

Other activities and training included group mentoring, skills training and development, internship placement and training in leadership and youth violence prevention.

Funding of \$12.58 million for the project was provided through the Japan Social Development Fund Grant funded programme of JSIF, matched by \$2.2 million in contributions from Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU).

The programme specifically included IT skills training for 75 unattached youth ages 17-29; a capacity building and personal development and conflict resolution

programme to 40 youth club leaders; and group mentoring sessions for eighty adolescents aged 12 to 14 years from the Denham Town High School.

"It is with a sense of great pride that we find ourselves today among you, as we share with our young graduates the joy of achievement," Lumsden-Lue stated.

"To secure the highest goals of personal achievement, one must take responsibility for the attitudes and beliefs that will guide your actions as you move forward from this day."

She indicated that the JSIF, with the support of funders, will continue to mobilize resources and channel these funds to communities where the need is critical.

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